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GAIN Report

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Vietnam

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Update

2004

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Report Highlights:

Prices still unchanged; a little export quantity was shipped by containers.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Ha Noi [VM1]
[VM]

Indicative price (Week ending Jan. 02, 2004)**Vietnam rice export prices (FOB basis) for various grades**

Grade % Broken								Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV. (Dec26)
5	197	197	197	197	197	197	197	197.00	197.00
10	194	194	194	194	194	194	194	194.00	194.00
15	188	188	188	188	188	188	188	188.00	188.00
25	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180.00	180.00

Source: Average indicative prices from exporters

Prices have been firm over the week although local prices have slid down USD 1-2/mt. This is just because of no shipment during New Year time. Market is expected to be more aggressive only after early February (after Tet-Lunar New Year) with most of shipments starting in late February.

Exports:

The following are reported rice exports from Dec. 19 to Dec. 26, 2003

Week ending	Quantity	4-WK Avg.	Year to date	Year ago
Nov. 21	15,000	38,750	3,695,000	3,087,000
Nov. 28	50,300	38,250	3,745,300	3,125,000
Dec. 5	5,500	23,200	3,750,800	3,146,000
Dec. 12	31,050	25,462	3,781,850	3,176,000
Dec. 19	11,700	24,637	3,793,550	3,188,000
Dec. 26	1,274	12,381	3,794,824	3,196,000

A small quantity of rice was shipped to South East Asian region by containers, no vessels are currently loading rice at ports.

Vietnam's 2004 rice exports

The Ministry of Trade (MOT) estimates Vietnam's 2004 rice exports at 3.5 million metric tons (mmt), about 10-12% less than 2003's level due to some constraints in importing markets. The Philippines, one of the Vietnam's rice traditional markets, is reportedly to reduce their 2004 rice imports because of increased domestic production.

Several sources were quoted as saying that, as of December 29, 2003 Vietnam had signed rice export contracts of more than 1.0 mmt of which 400 tmt to Iraq, 72 tmt to the Philippines and 150 tmt to Brazil. The rice shipment is scheduled in the first quarter of 2004.

Besides the Government's contracts, rice exporters are encouraged to sign direct rice export contracts. Two Vietnam's state-owned food companies are reportedly to sign contracts of 250 tmt of 5% broken rice to Brazil in 2004.

End of Report

